



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A banquet will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2006,  
3 for the Reverend Lee Grant Cook in honor of his 40-year  
4 anniversary and retirement; and

5 WHEREAS, Pastor Cook came from a family of humble  
6 circumstances; he lived with his parents, Deacon Dorsey Cook  
7 and Mother Virginia Cook, and his older sisters, Cleo and the  
8 late Bessie Cook, in a one-room house in Montgomery, Alabama;  
9 at the age of ten, he was converted and baptized at the New  
10 Canaan Baptist Church of Montgomery, Alabama; and

11 WHEREAS, It was at that church that his educational career  
12 began in a one-room church and school house; he finished  
13 Loveless Jr. High School and attended Tuskegee Institute, where  
14 he met the grandson of Booker T. Washington; he then graduated  
15 from Booker T. Washington Sr. High School; and

16 WHEREAS, He became a carpenter in 1938 in Montgomery, and  
17 he helped build the 99th Air Force Base in Tuskegee, Alabama;  
18 in 1948, he became a member of the United Brotherhood of  
19 Carpenters and Joiners and is still a member in good standing  
20 today; he moved to Chicago in 1943, but then went on to Atlanta  
21 six months later; and

22 WHEREAS, Rev. Cook was working at an atomic bomb plant in  
23 Tennessee on VJ Day in August of 1945; after the bomb hit  
24 Nagasaki, he left his job; his father died in 1948, and Rev.  
25 Cook returned to Alabama, then moving with part of his family  
26 to Chicago; and

27 WHEREAS, He joined Omega Baptist Church in 1948, where he  
28 served as Superintendent of Sunday School and sang in the  
29 choir; he later joined South Side Missionary Baptist Church;  
30 this church ordained him as a deacon and when his calling to

1 the ministry became evident, he accepted the call and  
2 immediately enrolled in the Chicago Baptist Institute, where he  
3 was a student for four years; he was licensed by Rev. Rudolph  
4 Poole and in 1951, he was ordained; he served as the assistant  
5 pastor at South Side Church until the death of Rev. Poole in  
6 1954; and

7 WHEREAS, Rev. Cook served as president of the graduating  
8 class of 1958; he was conferred with the degree of Doctor of  
9 Divinity by Hamilton State University of Tucson, Arizona, in  
10 March of 1975; and

11 WHEREAS, He became pastor of True Believers Missionary  
12 Baptist Church on April 17, 1966; his motto is "We have climbed  
13 the hill. The mountain is still before us. We must continue the  
14 task of winning the World for Christ. Then, and only then, can  
15 we truly say our work is done."; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
18 we congratulate the Reverend Lee Grant Cook on the occasion of  
19 his 40-year anniversary and retirement; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to Rev. Cook as an expression of our esteem.